



TOPIC FOR TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2025

Department Spotlight: Wynn Hospital Pharmacy Department

The Wynn Hospital Pharmacy Department is dedicated to providing comprehensive pharmaceutical care to all patients. Our team of pharmacists work in various inpatient settings and behind the scenes, 24/7, to ensure the safe and effective use of medications throughout the hospital.



What does the Wynn Pharmacy Department do?

Key inpatient pharmacy service areas at Wynn Hospital include:

- **Medication dispensing:** Accurately and efficiently delivering medications to patients in all units, including Critical Care, Intermediate Care, Medical/Surgical floors and the Emergency Department (ED).



- **Medication preparation and compounding:** Preparing sterile IV medications, including chemotherapy drugs, in accordance with USP 797 and USP 800 standards to ensure sterility and safety. This includes adhering to strict protocols for compounding, environmental monitoring and personnel training. In addition, staff also adheres to USP 795 standards for the non-sterile compounding and preparation of oral and topical medications.



- **Clinical consultations:** Providing expert advice and guidance to healthcare providers and patients on all aspects of medication therapy.
- **Medication history review:** Obtaining comprehensive medication histories from patients upon admission to ensure continuity of care and prevent medication errors.
- **Antibiotic stewardship:** Promoting the judicious use of antibiotics to optimize patient outcomes and minimize antibiotic resistance.
- **Pharmacokinetic monitoring:** Monitoring drug levels in patients to individualize dosages to ensure both safety and effectiveness.
- **ED Pharmacy staffing:** Providing pharmacists in the ED to ensure rapid medication access and expert consultation to meet the urgent needs of patients.
- **Critical Care Pharmacy staffing:** Dedicated Critical Care pharmacists provide specialized services to critically ill patients, such as those in the Intensive Care Unit.

What is a typical day like?

A typical day for a pharmacist at Wynn Hospital may involve:

- **Responding to emergencies:** Participating in Code Blue and Code Stroke events.
- **Participating in patient care rounds on multiple service lines:** Continuously monitoring and evaluating medication therapy, collaborating with doctors and nurses to optimize patient care.
- **Reviewing medication orders:** Assessing the appropriateness of medication orders, identifying potential drug interactions, and ensuring safe and effective medication management.
- **Monitoring drug therapy:**

- Tracking medication effectiveness and monitoring for adverse drug reactions.
- Pharmacokinetic dosing: Adjusting medication dosages based on individual patient characteristics (such as age, weight, kidney function) and measured drug levels to maximize therapeutic effects and minimize toxicity.
- Adjusting treatment plans as needed.
- **Educating patients:** Providing comprehensive medication counseling to patients, including discharge medication counseling to ensure a smooth transition home.
- **Antibiotic stewardship activities:**
 - Reviewing antibiotic prescriptions for appropriateness.
 - Monitoring patients on antibiotics for effectiveness and side effects.
 - Educating healthcare providers and patients about optimal antibiotic use.
 - Implementing interventions to prevent antibiotic resistance.
 - Participating in hospital committees focused on improving antibiotic prescribing practices.
- **Academic teaching and mentoring:** Precepting PGY-1 pharmacy residents and providing didactic education and mentorship to pharmacy students on rotation.
- **Controlled substance monitoring:** Ensuring the safe and appropriate use of controlled sub-stances through activities such as:
 - Reviewing medication orders for controlled substances to assess appropriateness and compliance with regulations.
 - Monitoring patient medication profiles for potential misuse or diversion.
 - Reconciling controlled substance inventories and investigating discrepancies.



Location and Hours

- Location: Second Floor, Wynn Hospital, 111 Hospital Drive, Utica
- Hours of Operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year

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